

Message Text

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ACTION INR-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 EB-11 SIL-01 LAB-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03

PM-07 NSC-07 SS-20 L-03 DRC-01 /108 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0011

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 1232

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GY, TD

SUBJECT: REACTION TO PRESS STORIES OF CIA-AIFLD LINK

REF:GEORGETOWN 1203, STATE 152184, POS 1660

1. IN PRESS STATEMENTS, LEADERS OF TRADE UNION CONGRESS (TUC), GUYANA'S PREDOMINANT LABOR FEDERATION, HAVE REJECTED CHARGES OF AIFLD-CIA LINKS IN GUYANA WHICH APPEARED IN TRINIDAD GUARDIAN AND WERE REPEATED IN GUYANA PRESS. TUC PRESIDENT RICHARD ISHMAEL, INTERVIEWED GY GOVERNMENT OWNED DAILY CHRONICLE, SAID THERE WERE NO REPORTS OF CIA INVOLVEMENT IN AIFLD'S ACTIVITIES, AND HE AFFIRMED THAT AIFLD'S PROGRAMS HAD STRENGTHENED TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. TUC GENERAL SECRETARY JOSEPH POLLYDORE AND TUC PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY GEORGE DE PEANA ISSUED STATEMENTS ALONG SIMILAR LINES.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, POLLYDTRE REPEATED HIS PRESS COMMENTS AND ADDED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE OR RE-EXAMINATION OF THE TUC ACCEPTANCE OF AIFLD SCHOLARSHIPS OR ASSISTANCE. POLLYDORE FURTHER EXPRESSED PUZZLEMENT AT WHY TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LABORCONGRESS PRESIDENT CRITCHLOW, SOURCE OF PRESS REPORTS OF CIA-AIFLD LINK, WOULD MAKE SUCH REMARKS ABOUT

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GUYANA. POLLYDORE SAID TUC PRESIDENT ISHMAEL AHD SENT CHRITCHLOW

LETTER CRITICIZING TTLIC LEADER FOR SPEAKING OUT WITHOUT KNOWING
FACTS.

3. COMMENT: SPONTANEOUS DEFENSE OF AIFLD BY TOP TUC LEADERS IS
ENCOURAGING AND CAN IN LARGE PART BE ATTRIBUTED TO AIFLD'S GUYANA
PROGRAM, WHICH SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN WELL RUN IN RECENT YEARS. BARRING
FURTHER REVELATIONS, THIS CURRENT ROUND OF AIFLD-CIA PUBLICITY
APPEARS ENDED. MATTHEWS

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